

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 16698

DEPARTMENT FOR "A" AND WHITE HOUSE FOR RUSTAND/HENKEL

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOK

REF: A. MOSCOW 16636 B. MOSOW 16576

1. AS REPORTED REF A, CURRENT SOVIET "OFFICIAL POSITION" IS THAT NUMBER OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL TO BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA FOR SUPPORT OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE TO FIVE PERSONS. WE CONSIDER THIS HIGHLY UNREASONABLE AND HAVE INFORMED THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THIS WILL SEVERELY LIMIT OUR ABILITY TO FACILITATE AND BACKUP THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. WE WOULD HOPE THE SOVIETS WILL EVENTUALLY SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THIS REGARD. IN ANY CASE, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT NUMBER OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL WHICH SOVIETS WILL ALLOW TO PROCEED TO VLADIVOSTOK AREA WILL BE FAR LESS THAN WE WOULD LIKE.

2. SOVIETS STICK TO CURRENT LIMITATIONS, OUR ABILITY TO ASSIST PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE TEAMS, AS WELL AS PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ITSELF, IN LOGISTICS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS WILL BE REDUCED TO ALMOST ZERO. ADVANCE PARTY FOR PLANNING PURPOSES SHOULD THUS BE READY TO BRING WITH IT NECESSARY SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL WHICH EMBASSY IN ORDINARY COURSE OF EVENTS WOULD BE

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PROVIDING.

3. SHOULD SOVIETS INSIST THAT NO MORE THAN FIVE EMBASSY PERSONNEL BE ASSIGNED TO VLADIVOSTOK TO ASSIST ADVANCE PARTY, BASED ON OUR PAST EXPERIENCE WE WOULD ASSUME THAT MOST USEFUL PEOPLE WOULD BE WORKING LEVEL RUSSIAN-SPEAKING OFFICERS FAMILIAR WITH DEALING WITH SOVIET BUREAUCRACY. FOR CONTINGENCY PURPOSES, WE ARE THEREFORE PLANNING TO SEND TWO SUCH OFFICERS FOR PROTOCOL, SCHEDULING, PROGRAM, AND GENERAL LIAISON WITH SOVIETS AT MEETING SITE, TWO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS TO ASSIST ON LOGISTICS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, AND ONE MILITARY OFFICER PRINCIPALLY TO ASSIST IN LIAISON WITH SOVIETS ON FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIRPORT SERVICES AND POSSIBLE HELICOPTER SHUTTLE PROBLEMS. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE TEAM'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER ABOVE SATISFACTORY.

4. PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE TEAMS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT UNLESS SOVIETS CHANGE CURRENT PLANS, WE WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

(A) HOSPITALITY/CONTROL ROOM: WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OPERATE SUCH A FACILITY AS WOULD NORMALLY BE OUR PRACTICE. IN ANY CASE, TRANSPORTATION FROM MOSCOW VIA COMMERCIAL AIRLINE WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE. AIRFREIGHT FROM MOSCOW TO VLADIVOSTOK IS ABOUT \$.60 A POUND. ADVANCE PARTY SHOULD, THEREFORE, PLAN TO BRING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF TOILETRIES, BEVERAGES, CIGARETTES, ETC.

(B) SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE: SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF SECRETARIES SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO USSR WITH PARTY.

(C) MARINE GUARDS: WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FURNISH MARINE GUARDS OR ANY OTHER PERSONNEL TO MAINTAIN NORMAL SECURITY. AGAIN, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT SECURITY PERSONNEL ARRIVE WITH PRE-ADVANCE TEAM AND REMAIN TILL END OF VISIT.

5. FURTHER TO REF B, NO MATTER HOW COOPERATIVE SOVIETS WERE, CONFIDENTIAL

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WE WOULD STILL FACE ENORMOUS LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS IN BACKUP VLADIVOSTOK MEETING SITE. THEREFORE, BELIEVE WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON FOLLOWING PROBLEMS:

(A) OFFICE SUPPLIES: IN VIEW OF TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES AND COSTS, WE RECOMMEND THAT ADVANCE PARTY BRING OFFICE SUPPLIES WITH IT, INCLUDING

OFFICE MACHINES SUCH AS TYPEWRITERS AND XEROX.
WE ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY
INFORMATION AND AS SOON AS WE HAVE IT WILL LET YOU
KNOW REGARDING NEED FOR TRANSFORMERS.

(B) TRANSPORTATION: ALTHOUGH WE STILL DO NOT KNOW LAYOUT WITH RESPECT TO TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN GUEST HOUSES AND NEAREST AIRPORT, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT HELICOPTER SHUTTLE SERVICE WILL BE NECESSARY FOR SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL. ASSUME YOU WILL BE FLYING IN HELICOPTER OR SEVERAL HELICOPTERS FOR USE OF PRESIDENT DURING VISIT. PLEASE ADVISE.

(C) TELECOMMUNICATIONS: WILL WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS ALSO HANDLE STATE COMMUNICATIONS, OR DOES DEPARTMENT PLAN TO ESTABLISH MOBILE "CAN DO" PACKAGE AT MEETING SITE? IF SO, SUGGEST CIRCUITS GO THROUGH MOSCOW AS WELL. AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, WE DO NOT HAVE ASSURANCES OF EITHER TELEX OR TELEPHONE LINES FROM MEETING SITE TO MOSCOW. WE SHOULD, OF COURSE, GIVE SOVIETS PRECISE REQUIREMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. EVEN IF SOVIETS PROVE INFLEXIBLE ON AMOUNT OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL TO SUPPORT PRE-ADVANCE AND ADVANCE PARTIES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THEY WOULD ALLOW US TO ASSIGN A CONSIDERABLY EXPANDED STAFF TO WORK WITH PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ON SUCH MATTERS AS DEALING WITH THE PRESS, LOGISTICS AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION. WE FEEL WE HAVE USEFUL ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS REGARD AND THAT IF SOVIETS REMAIN STIFF-NECKED, CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POSSIBILITY OF DESIGNATING EMBASSY PERSONNEL DIRECTLY AS MEMBERS OF SUPPORT STAFF FOR PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. SUCH PERSONNEL, IF DESIRED,
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COULD FLY FROM MOSCOW VIA COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT AND JOIN PRESIDENT'S PARTY IN TOKYO.

7. WOULD APPRCIATE REACTION TO ABOVE ASAP.
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